

Leadership Council Discussion Draft

Development of Criteria to Prioritize Actions

February 27, 2008

ESSB 5372 requires that the Puget Sound Partnership identify and prioritize strategies and actions that, if fully implemented, will result in a healthy Puget Sound. In order to select and prioritize actions for inclusion in the Action Agenda, we need to develop criteria. A unique set of criteria may be required for each type of action (capital project, education/outreach program, policy/regulatory reform, science and monitoring).

We have begun gathering information about criteria at the Action Area meetings. We would like input from the Leadership on the criteria that you feel are important to include. At the next meeting, we will present a list of criteria and a proposed process for their use in selecting the highest priority actions.

To help the discussion, here are criteria examples from a few Action Area meetings:

- Protect remaining intact habitat (maybe be geographically specific)
- Protect unique/rare ecosystem components
- Address keystone species
- Address habitats and fundamental processes that generate and control biodiversity
- Address key identified threats in the system (could be geographic, could be an issue, could be both)
- Actions with a high certainty of success
- Actions that benefit multiple goals
- Cost effectiveness
- Actions that can be incentivized
- Actions that can be replicated in other parts of the Sound
- Balance between regional needs and local needs
- Addresses a key data gap
- High leverage of other resources
- Preventative actions
- Community support
- Address human health concerns